

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: RESTRICTED MEETING OCTOBER 15, 175

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 51

1. SUMMARY. AT RESTRICTED MEETING OCTOBER 15 (STOESSEL/BUCHHEIM/MARTIN/TUNIK - MAROKHOV/TIMERBAEV/KOVALEV) THERE WAS GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW WORK SHOULD NOW PROCEED, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT WORKING GROUP II WOULD MEET AM OCTOBER 16 ON (A) DEFINITIONS IN BOTH TREATY AND PROTOCOLS; (B) INFORMATION EXCHANGE; (C) ON-SITE VERIFICATION, INCLUDING SEISMIC AND SLIFER/DISCRETE EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES. RESTRICTED MEETING PM OCTOBER 16 WILL REVIEW SITUATION. MOROKHOV REMARKS COVERED: EQUIPMENT; OBSERVERS RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS; EXCEPTIONS TO AGREED YIELD LIMIT; THIRD COUNTRY APPLICATION; TTBT/ONE RELATIONSHIP; AND SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW. HIS COMMENTS, ALTHOUGH GENERALLY REHEARSING PAST SOVIET POSITIONS, DID INDICATE SOME MOVEMENT. STOESSEL STATEMENT (SEE REFTEL) REFERRED TO AND REAFFIRMED US BASIC POSITIONS ON: NEED FOR ESSENTIAL PROVISIONS, INCLUDING VERIFICATION, TO BE ESTABLISHED IN TEXT IN EXPLICIT AND BINDING TERMS; THIRD COUNTRY APPLICATION; TTBT/PNE RELATIONSHIP; SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW; AND OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. EQUIPMENT-SLIFER/DISCRETE: AT START OF MEETING MOROKHOV SAID DELEGATION HEADS SHOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS SLIFER/DISCRETE

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INSTRUMENTS UNTIL QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE COULD BE WORKED OUT, AT

WHICH POINT WORKING GROUP COULD ADDRESS QUESTION. BY END OF MEETING MOROKHOV HAD AGREED THAT WORKING GROUP COULD BEGIN DISCUSSION THIS ISSUE TOMORROW, BUT NOTED THAT SOVIET EXPERTS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL OCTOBER 20. HE EMPHASIZED THAT IT HIS VIEW THAT ALL POSSIBILITIES RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF "UNIFIED" EQUIPMENT "HAD NOT BEEN USED UP."

3. EQUIPMENT-SEISMIC: MOROKHOV PRESSED US TO DISCUSS WHAT HE TERMED SOVIET COMPROMISE PROPOSAL, WHICH WOULD INVOLVE VERIFYING SIDE BRINGING EQUIPMENT TO BE INSTALLED AND OPERATED BY HOST SIDE UNDER VERIFYING SIDE SUPERVISION, WITH VERIFYING SIDE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM EQUIPMENT WHENEVER SUCH REQUESTED FROM HOST SIDE OPERATOR. ESSENCE OF SOVIET APPROACH WOULD INVOLVE HOST SIDE ACTING AS AGENT UNDER DIRECTION OF VERIFYING SIDE IN PERFORMANCE OF ALL FUNCTIONS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OF DETAIL, FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN EQUIPMENT WOULD BE BROUGHT AND WITH WHAT DOCUMENTS EXPLAINING ITS USE AND SPECIFICATIONS ABOUT ITS INSTALLATION AND OPERATION MUST ALSO BE ADDRESSED. SINCE MOROKHOV WILLING TO PERMIT EXPERT DISCUSSION OF SLIVER/DISCRETE QUESTIONS, US AGREED, MAKING CLEAR IT WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO US APPROACH, TO DISCUSS THIS SOVIET APPROACH TO SEISMIC EQUIPMENT.

4. OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS: MOROKHOV REPEATED SOVIET POSITIONS FOR (A) YIELDS ABOVE 150KT THRESHOLD, AND (B) 100-150 KT RANGE. STOESSEL MADE CLEAR THAT IT US VIEW VERIFYING SIDE MUST HAVE ABSOLUTE DISCRETION TO BE PRESENT WHEN EXPLOSIONS TAKE PLACE AT 100 KT AND ABOVE. HE ADDED THAT US, FOR ITS PART, WOULD NOT NECESSARILY ALWAYS INVOKE THAT RIGHT, BUT IT MOST IMPORTANT TO HAVE TREATY PROVIDE FOR IT.

5. EXCEPTIONS ABOVE AGREED YIELD THRESHOLD: MOROKHOV SAID HE WOULD NOT REMARK ON THIS IN DETAIL, BUT NOTED SOVIETS STILL HAD NOT RECEIVED "FULL US VIEWS" ON SOVIET PROPOSAL TO PERMIT LIMITED NUMBER OF EXCEPTIONS. USSR WANTS TO GET US VIEWS IN ORDER FULLY TO UNDERSTAND US POSITION, AND GIVE USSR A BASIS FOR TAKING FURTHER ACTIONS.

6. THIRD-COUNTRY APPLICATION: MOROKHOV, IN REPLY TO DIRECT STOESSEL QUESTION AS TO WHETHER USSR SHARED US VIEW ON THIS, SAID SOVIETS "FULLY SHARE US VIEW THAT PNES IN OUR COUNTRY, OR WITH-
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OUT OUR COUNTRIES CARRIED OUT WITH OUR ASSISTANT" SHOULD BE COVERED BY PNE TREATY. HOWEVER, USSR FEELS THAT CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS COMMON TO BOTH OF US (NPT ARTICLE V WAS SPECIFIED) MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, AND SOVIET PROPOSED LANGUAGE WILL REFLECT THIS. FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW SOVIETS NOT SATISFIED WITH LANGUAGE IN US DRAFT; HOWEVER, SOVIETS PREPARED TO SEEK OTHER LANGUAGE TO SUPPORT POINT MOROKHOV HAD JUST MADE, SUCH AS HIS SUGGESTIONS AT OCTOBER 14 RESTRICTED MEETING (SEE MOSCOW 14697,

PAGE 10).

7. TTBT/PNE RELATIONSHIP: MOROKHOV AGREED THERE IS SUCH RELATIONSHIP, BUT ARGUED AGAIN THAT "MERE, BUT HAPPY, COINCIDENCE IS INVOLVED". USSR NOT AGAINST REFLECTING THIS RELATIONSHIP IN PNE TEXT, BUT INSISTS DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE (MOROKHOV CHARACTERIZED IT AS MAJOR IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE) AS BETWEEN LIMITING NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS AND BENEFICIAL APPLICATIONS OF PNE SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT -- AT LEAST AS FAR AS SOVIET SIDE CONCERNED. MOROKHOV SAID HE HAD IMPRESSION FROM PRIOR US-USSR TALKS THAT US SIDE UNDERSTOOD "OUR DIFFICULT SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS AND PNE". MOROKHOV RECALLED THAT DURING TTBT NEGOTIATIONS SOVIET SIDE PREPARED TO BAN ALL TESTS, OBSTACLE TO WHICH WAS NOT USSR. HE NOTED THAT TTBT ARTICLE III INCORPORATED AT BEHEST OF SOVIET SIDE, AND SAID HE CERTAIN STOESEL REMEMBERED SITUATION IN SUMMER 1974 "WHICH WAS SOLVED BY DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO THE PROBLEM."

8. SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW: MOROKHOV SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER, SINCE ALL HE COULD DO IS REPEAT WHAT HE HAD ALREADY SAID. WITH RESPECT TO STOESEL COMMENTS ON THIS QUESTION TODAY, MOROKHOV WISHED POINT OUT THAT HE GAINED LITTLE CONFIDENCE FROM ASSERTION THAT US COULD CHANGE ITS DOMESTIC LAW IF SUCH WERE IN CONFLICT WITH TREATY COMMITMENT AS RESULT OF RECENT EXPERIENCE (COMMENT: TIMBERAEV PASSED NOTE SAYING REFERENCE WAS TO SOVIET MFN EXPERIENCE. END COMMNETT). STOESEL

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